Concerto No. 3 in D minor for piano, Opus 30 of Sergei Rachmaninoff (London Symphony Orchestra, Andre Previn, conductor; Vladimir Ashkenazy, pianist; WNCN)

The creation of aesthetic forms I. The world of empirical reality as regarded by Homo sapiens not conscious of the self: those men who are not conscious of the self are not certainly interested in/ not capable of creating aesthetic forms they are interested in/capable of to a greater or lesser degree establishing forms/structures only to the extent that they satisfy particular biological needs for them the components of empirical reality as well as the components of aesthetic reality are regarded literally and as means to satisfying instinctual needs their response to environmental stimuli/their behavior is mediated by reactions below the conscious level they respond certainly without judgment to the world in much the same manner as do animals. The appreciation of aesthetic forms II. The work of art as regarded by Homo sapiens not conscious of the self: those men who are not conscious of the self certainly are not interested in/are not capable of appreciating aesthetically works of art for them the concept "the appearance of things" does not exist/ is meaningless for them the concept "the representation of reality" does not exist/is meaningless for them the sound produced by a performance of the first movement of what would in all probability have been identified by Mahler as Symphony No. 10 in F sharp minor had that work-in-progress become a completed-work belongs to the same category of phenomena as do the sounds produced for example by rain falling rocks birds for them the components of empirical reality/the natural are not differentiated from the components of aesthetic reality/the artificial are not differentiated from the components of empirical reality that are nonnatural inasmuch as they are not conscious of the self the components of empirical reality as well as the components of aesthetic reality (1) exist only to the extent yes that they are near at hand/within the territory of a given animal or group of animals cranberries walnuts Claes Oldenburg's Dual Hamburgers (1962, painted plaster, 7" X 14 3/4", MOMA) exist only to the extent that they are within the territory of Homo sapiens (2) are significant only to the extent that they satisfy in whole or in part the instinctual needs of Homo sapiens the first two acts of Schoenberg's Moses und Aron water fish are significant only to the extent that they can be to a greater or lesser degree biologically assimilated by non-self-conscious Homo sapiens yes.

(L'Aire: 6-6-76)